



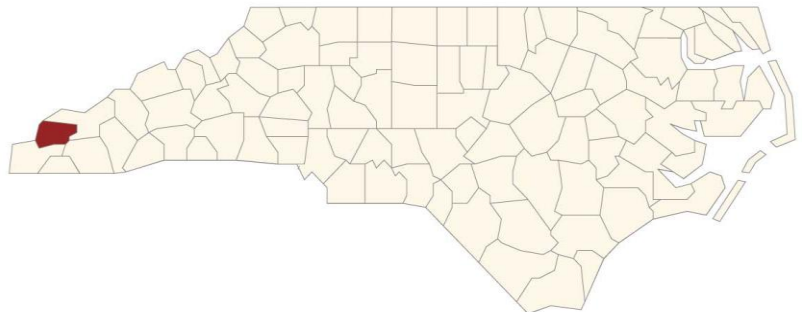
On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Obama. ARRA provides increased support to several existing federal programs administered by states, creates new programs such as the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, and offers opportunities for states to apply for competitive grant programs.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's significant investment in North Carolina totaled almost \$19.5 billion, including assistance for those needing help the most through increases in unemployment benefits, Medicaid payments, and food stamps. In addition to those expanded services, ARRA gives hundreds of thousands of working North Carolinians a break through tax credits like the *Making Work Pay* tax credit and the *First Time Homebuyer's* tax credit.

The Recovery Act is not like earlier attempts to revive the nation's economy. It is not only a one-time infusion of federal funds; instead it is a long-term effort to restore economic expansion in the short-term, as well as prepare the nation's economy for stable, healthy long-term growth. Under the terms of the Recovery Act, support for North Carolina's economy will include both investments made directly by the federal government and investments of federal funds that are made under the oversight of the North Carolina state government.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Report, Graham County

Graham County received more than \$24 million in ARRA funding in grants, loans, and bonds. The following report outlines the various funding categories that contributed to the Graham County total.



**Green Energy
Awards:**
3



**Environmental
Contracts:**
10

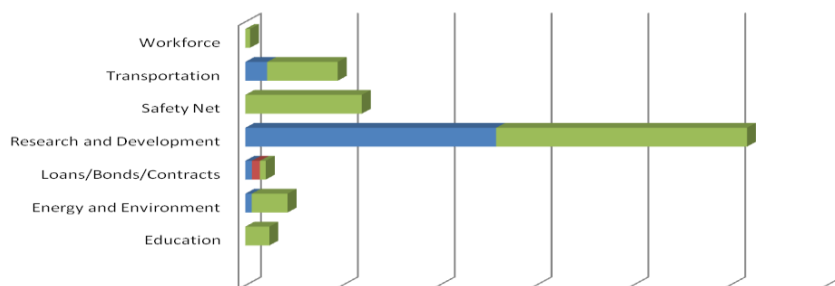


Appliances rebated:
8



Family homes financed:
4

Graham County Totals



■ Sum of Prime Awards
 ■ Sum of Sub-Awards
 ■ Sum of Loans/Bonds

Graham County,
pop 7,993 at a glance:

Recovery Act Totals:

Grants: \$24,257,962

Loans: \$415,650

Total: \$24,673,612



Education

The Recovery Act placed a special emphasis on maintaining education funding. Governor Beverly Perdue furthered this commitment by pledging additional recovery funds from the Recovery Act to education, and leading North Carolina to additional funds by winning \$400 million in the Race to the Top program.

Most of the ARRA education funds are distributed to local schools through existing funding formulas. Special Education Funds and Title I funds go to schools based on eligible student enrollment. State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF) and the EduJobs grants were designed to hold schools harmless during the recession, and were distributed to public and charter schools. The school systems have spent the majority of the funds on staff and support. Some projects, such as Race to the Top, will be spent for purchasing products and services rather than salaries for staff.

Authorization for low/no interest bonds for school construction/renovation followed the Department of Public Instruction procedures with initial allotments to the school systems. If a school system could not utilize their allotment, it was released to other school systems that could utilize additional allotments.

Graham County schools received \$1.4 million in education funding, including \$247,158 in Special Education funds, \$262,116 in Title I funds, \$769,333 in SFSF funds, and \$183,093 in Race to the Top funding.



Family Assistance

The Federal Department of Agriculture increased funding to their Single-Family home program with the ARRA. These resources assisted families in achieving the American Dream of home ownership through direct financial assistance (grants) or credit (loan guarantees). This program pumped more than \$729 million into North Carolina, providing assistance to more than 5,400 families.

In Graham County, 4 families received assistance through this program totaling more than \$415,000.

The Department of Energy created the Energy Star Appliance rebate program to help stimulate the economy by incentivizing the purchase of new, more energy efficient appliances, and helping consumers by providing long-term savings from their utility bills. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce managed the program insuring North Carolina residents and retailers received the maximum benefit from this opportunity. North Carolina retailers sold more than 25,500 new energy efficiency appliances through this program, and North Carolina residents will enjoy energy savings for years to come. The program was so successful, that the State Energy Office reprogrammed additional funding to provide discounts to everyone participating in the program, bringing the total program value from \$8 up to \$10 Million.

Graham County retailers sold 8 appliances through the Energy Star Appliance rebate program.



Farm Assistance

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program is administered by the Farm Services Administration in the federal Department of Agriculture, which provides assistance to farmers suffering crop losses due to natural disasters. To qualify for the program a farm must have lost at least 10% of one crop during a natural disaster in a declared disaster county, or lost 50% of a crop during a disaster in a non-disaster county. North Carolina farmers received more than \$9 million in total payments under the ARRA-Funded SURE Program.

In Graham County, \$6,002 was received in assistance to farmers because of crop loss to natural disasters.



Environment and Natural Resources Programs

ARRA funded several programs to protect the environment, or to develop natural resources more efficiently. These programs ranged from environmental clean-up, such as leaking underground storage tank abatement and Brownfields programs, to EPA clean air grants, wildfire prevention grants, and revolving funds to build, expand, or overhaul existing water and sewer programs. These programs provided nearly \$150 million across North Carolina.

In Graham County, the US Forest Service of contracted for more than \$300,000 worth of services to prevent wild fires.



Green Energy Programs

One of the goals of ARRA was to provide grants to help conserve energy and assist in the development of a green economy. The State Energy Office in the North Carolina Department of Commerce received large grants for energy conservation under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. These grants include the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), funded at just under \$20 million, and the State Energy Plan (SEP), funded at \$70 million. The State Energy Office then used these grants to make awards to businesses, non-profits, and local governments for various purposes.

In Graham County, Graham County Schools received an EECBG grant of \$199,380 to improve lighting, install occupancy sensors in bathrooms and hallways and upgrade heating and air conditioning system controls. Alcoa Inc. received a grant from the US Department of Energy to modernize Cheoah dam and hydropower plant



Safety Net Programs

Safety net programs are the category of ARRA funding that consists of programs designed to help populations made particularly vulnerable by the economic crisis. These generally include increases in existing programs, most notably the increase in both benefit level and duration of unemployment payments. Increases in the amount and duration of unemployment payments makes up the largest chunk of safety net programs funded through the Recovery Act, totaling more than \$3.5 billion statewide over more than two years. Safety net programs such as unemployment insurance and SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps), not only benefit the recipient, but have a proven economic impact on a community.

Graham County residents received \$3.4 million in Unemployment Insurance increases during the 2 ½ year ARRA benefits increase. County residents also received \$1.9 million in SNAP benefit increases, and \$546,500 in one-time payments of \$250 to social security recipients.

Graham County Feature Story

Department of Energy invests in clean energy in Graham County

One of the many goals of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is to establish the foundation for the American 21st century green economy. To this end, the federal Department of Energy funded several initiatives to promote energy efficiency, alternative energy, and to reduce American dependence on foreign oil. To create jobs and lead in the global clean energy economy, DOE has made a point of supporting pioneering investments – including advance battery research. One ARRA-funded Department of Energy grant program was funding to modernize the Cheoah Dam and hydropower plant, one of four hydroelectric power facilities that make up Alcoa Power Generating Inc.'s Tapoco Project.



Alcoa Inc. is one of the world's largest producers of Aluminum. Alcoa is also a world leader in the production and management of primary aluminum, fabricated aluminum, and alumina combined, through its active and growing participation in all major aspects of the industry. In addition to inventing the modern-day aluminum industry, Alcoa's innovation has been behind major milestones in the aerospace, automotive, packaging, building and construction, commercial transportation, consumer electronics, and industrial markets for more than 120 years.



The Cheoah Dam began hydroelectric operation in 1919. At the time of completion, Cheoah was the world's highest overflow dam at 225 feet. For nearly 100 years, the dam has provided Alcoa with a clean source of energy for operations.

In late 2009, the Department of Energy's Wind and Hydropower Technologies Program jumpstarted a long-planned modernization of the Cheoah Dam and hydroelectric power plant by making a \$12.9 million grant to Alcoa. The planned \$110 million modernization project at Cheoah Dam will include the upgrade of two of the dam's five power generation units. The first phase objectives for this ARRA-funded, DOE cost-shared project are to purchase four new high-efficiency turbines, generators and transformers, upgrade the balance of plant equipment and complete installation of two units. Another two units will be upgraded during phase two of the project and will increase Cheoah's total capacity to 140 MW. These efforts will increase the dam's efficiency and energy output and increase the life of the dam by at least another 40-50 years.

When announcing the grant last year, DOE Secretary Steven Chu said: "One of the best opportunities we have to increase our supply of clean energy is by bringing our hydropower systems into the 21st Century. With this investment, we can create jobs, help our environment and give more renewable power to our economy without building a single new dam."

Work on the project began in early 2010. While the project is currently less than 50% completed, the Cheoah Dam modernization has created an average of 50 new jobs per quarter.

Appendix, Graham County breakout

Federal Agency	Program Title	Recipient name	Recipient role ⁱ	Prime Amount ⁱⁱ	Unique Sub Awards ⁱⁱⁱ	Loans	Additional Economic Activity (not counted toward totals) ^{iv}
	Bonds		P			\$0.00	
	Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans - Guaranteed	Individuals	L			\$415,650.00	
Department of Agriculture	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	Multiple Individuals	S		\$1,968,077.01		
Department of Energy	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG)	Graham County School District	S	\$0.00	\$199,380.00	\$0.00	
		Graham, County Of	S	\$0.00	\$26,175.00	\$0.00	
	Renewable Energy Research and Development	Alcoa Inc.	P	\$12,950,000.00		\$0.00	\$12,950,000.00
	Weatherization Assistance for Low-Income Persons	Four Square Community Action, Inc.	S	\$0.00	\$1,291,438.00	\$0.00	
Department of Labor	Unemployment Insurance	Multiple Individuals	S		\$3,499,555.61		
Federal Highway Administration	Highway Planning and Construction	North Carolina Department Of Transportation	P	\$1,130,526.00		\$0.00	\$1,130,526.00
		S.T. Wooten Corporation	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$1,104,280.26
		Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$35,773.24
		Taylor & Murphy	PV	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$889,167.98
Federal Transit Administration	Formula Grants for Other Than Urbanized Areas	Graham, County Of	S	\$0.00	\$480,556.00	\$0.00	
Food and Nutrition Service	Child Nutrition Discretionary Grants Limited Availability	Graham County School District	S	\$0.00	\$28,790.45	\$0.00	
Forest Service	No CFDA for Contract type awards	Bullseye Builders, Inc.	P	\$27,958.00		\$0.00	\$27,958.00
		Hooper, Thomas Wiley	P	\$67,003.20		\$0.00	\$67,003.20
		Mcmahan & Associates, P.A.	P	\$20,256.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
				\$21,841.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
		Orica Usa Inc.	P	\$32,500.00		\$0.00	\$32,500.00
		Sprinkle Surveying Inc	P	\$2,100.00		\$0.00	\$2,100.00
		Williams	P	\$125,000.00		\$0.00	\$125,000.00

		Construction & Cabinetry, Inc.					
				\$45,690.00		\$0.00	\$45,690.00
	Recovery Act of 2009: Wildland Fire Management	Eastern Band Of The Cherokee Indians	P	\$168,830.00		\$0.00	\$168,830.00
		Western North Carolina Alliance	P	\$164,081.00		\$0.00	\$164,081.00
Idaho Operations Office	Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (EEARP)		P			\$0.00	\$1,300.00
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Education State Grants, Recovery Act	Graham County School District	S	\$0.00	\$769,333.00	\$0.00	
	State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) - Race-to-the-Top Incentive Grants, Recovery Act	Graham County School District	S	\$0.00	\$183,098.00	\$0.00	
	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies, Recovery Act	Graham County School District	S	\$0.00	\$262,116.00	\$0.00	
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Special Education Grants to States, Recovery Act	Graham County School District	S	\$0.00	\$247,158.00	\$0.00	
SSA	Social Security Economic Recovery Act Payments	Multiple Individuals	P		\$546,500.00		
USDA							
Grand Total				\$14,755,785.20	\$9,502,177.07	\$415,650.00	\$16,744,209.68

ⁱ Recipient Role are as follows: P is a prime recipient; S is a Sub-recipient; PV is a vendor to a prime recipient; SV is a vendor to a sub-recipient; L is a loan recipient.

ⁱⁱ Prime Amounts are unique prime awards within a county. These are entities who have received funding directly from a federal agency, and are required to report directly to www.federalreporting.gov

ⁱⁱⁱ Unique Sub Awards are amounts that flow into a county from a source that is NOT directly from a Federal Agency. Generally these are funds awarded to the North Carolina State Government that have been directed to a local source.

^{iv} Additional Economic Activity are economic activity attributable to a previous funding category. They may be a sub award by a prime recipient within a county, or a contract funded by one of the previous three columns. This economic activity is not counted toward the county total.